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mouthpiece, the ring thereby becoming lodged; and
then reconnecting the lower and upper sections at the juncture point.

Please add the following new claims:

12. A method for suspending a recorder from a neck of a user using a device that comprises a strap and a ring attached to the strap, the recorder comprising a lower section and an upper section joined at a juncture point, the recorder having a distal end belonging to the lower section and a proximate end belonging to the upper section, the recorder further having a mouthpiece at the proximate end, the upper section having a diameter that increases gradually from the juncture point to the mouthpiece, the ring having an inner diameter larger than the diameter of the upper section at the juncture point, the inner diameter further being smaller than the diameter of the upper section at the mouthpiece, the method comprising the steps of:

suspending the strap from the neck of the user;
pulling the recorder apart at the juncture point, thereby separating the lower section from the upper section; and
then inserting through the ring an end of the upper section that is associated with the juncture point and is opposite to the proximate end, and then sliding the ring towards the mouthpiece, the ring thereby becoming lodged.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising reconnecting the lower and upper sections at the juncture point. - -

REMARKS

Prior to this Response, claim 11 was pending and rejected.

In this Response, claim 11 has been amended, and new claims 12-13 have been added.

Claims 11 - 13 are now pending in the present application. Reconsideration is requested. In addition to the above amendments, the Applicant makes the following remarks regarding individual issues:

* Attorney's new address:

The Examiner is asked to take note of the Attorney's new address.